

Freedom Kudakwashe Muranda

Climate Data Scientist · Sustainability Manager · Climate Risk Specialist · ESG Manager · ESG & Climate Strategy Consultant

 fmuranda  freedommuranda  freedom.muranda@gmail.com  +263 774 803 502

Summary

Sustainability and climate professional with over 5 years of experience leading ESG strategy, sustainability reporting, climate risk management, and regulatory compliance across complex organisations. Proven ability to integrate sustainability into core business strategy, advise senior leadership, manage stakeholder engagement, and deliver data-driven outcomes aligned with GRI, TCFD, IFRS, CDP, and the SDGs.

Skills

Programming Languages: Python (Keras, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, NumPy, Pandas, SciPy, Xarray, Seaborn/ Matplotlib, Cartopy, Plotly), JavaScript, R, Mathematica

Databases: SQL, PostgreSQL

Tools: Git, QGIS, GitHub Actions, Power BI

Cloud Platforms: Google Earth Engine (GEE), Google Colab

Frameworks and Methods: Machine Learning, Deep Learning (ConvLSTM), Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Classification (Random Forest)

Languages: English (Professional), Shona (Native), Ndebele

Work Experience

Group Sustainability Officer
Econet Wireless – Harare

May 2021 – Present

- Sustainability Strategy and Reporting:** Leading sustainability reporting, assurance audits, and ensuring conformance to international standards (GRI, SASB, IFRS, UNGC, IWA 48:2024) across Econet Wireless and subsidiaries in fintech, insurtech, edutech, mobility, and renewable energy.
- ESG Management and Climate Risk:** Tracking ESG KPIs, conducting enterprise and climate risk assessments (ISO 31000), managing GHG emissions (Scope 1, 2, 3) using the GHG Protocol, ISO 14064, and TCFD, and developing mitigation strategies.
- Stakeholder Engagement and Culture Transformation:** Implementing SDG-aligned sustainability strategies, managing stakeholder engagement (AA1000), facilitating sustainability training for 500+ sustainability champions, and driving organisation-wide risk and culture transformation.
- Managing sustainability audits and external assurance of sustainability reports.
- Sustainability lead for B Impact Assessment (BIA) to determine ESG scores from risks and impacts.
- Project lead for automation and deployment of the CURA Incident Management Module (100%).
- Risk Advisory:** Conduct comprehensive ESG and climate risk assessments, develop risk mitigation strategies, and provide advisory support to business units.
- Project lead for AI-driven Incident Management automation with the Cassava AI team.
- Microsoft Power BI automation for sustainability and SHE KPIs, delivering >90% effectiveness in stakeholder engagement tracking and monitoring.

Senior Sustainability Consultant (Environment, Health and Safety)
Toxiconsol t/a African Sustainability Consultants – Harare

Sept 2019 – Apr 2021

- Sustainability Reporting and Climate Disclosure:** Developed sustainability reports aligned with GRI Standards and climate disclosure requirements.

- **SHEQ Management and Training:** Implemented and audited Safety, Health, Environment, and Quality (SHEQ) management systems (ISO 14001, ISO 9001, ISO 45001) and facilitated training across multiple industries.
- **Leadership and Advocacy:** Led sustainable development projects, represented the organisation at local and international workshops, and served as a sub-editor for the *Green Business Gazette*.
- **Environmental Impact Assessments:** Conducted EIAs, Ecological Impact Assessments, and developed Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) to ensure regulatory compliance.
- Implemented Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production technologies and conducted energy audits.
- Performed SHEQ audits across industry, mining, construction, and related sectors.

Environmental Scientist
Sustiglobal – Harare

May 2015 – Aug 2019

Environmental Assessment Practitioner
Outrun Investments – Harare

Feb 2014 – Feb 2015

Biodiversity Conservation Intern
Environment Africa – Harare

Feb 2013 – Dec 2013

Education

University of Zimbabwe MSc in Climate Science and Climate Systems Modelling Thesis: Spatiotemporal Analysis of Climate Variables Under ENSO Influence in Zimbabwe (2015-2024)  ORCID	Harare, Zimbabwe Dec. 2024
University of Zimbabwe BSc Honours Degree in Applied Environmental Science	Harare, Zimbabwe Aug. 2012

Certifications

Associate Certified Sustainability Assurance Practitioner (ACSAP) – AccountAbility	Certificate
External Assurance for Sustainability Reporting – Global Reporting Initiative	Certificate
Reporting with the GRI Standards – Global Reporting Initiative	Certificate
Introduction to Sustainability Reporting and the GRI Standards – Global Reporting Initiative	Certificate
Integrating the SDGs into Sustainability Reporting – Global Reporting Initiative	Certificate
Reporting on Human Rights with the GRI Standards – Global Reporting Initiative	Certificate
Introduction to the CSRD and Reporting with the ESRS – Global Reporting Initiative	Certificate
Certified Technical Expert Reviewer – UNFCCC Enhanced Transparency Framework (Paris Agreement)	
Certified Carbon Footprint Analyst	
Computational Tools for Climate Science	Certificate
Environmental and Social Fundamentals – IFC (World Bank)	
Developing GCF Funding Proposals (SAP) – Green Climate Fund	
Certified Internal Auditor – ISO 45001, ISO 14001, ISO 9001 – Standards Association of Zimbabwe	
Certified ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management Systems	
Certified ISO 26000 Guidance on Social Responsibility	

Publications

Contributor – <i>Green Business Gazette</i>	Link
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References available upon request